VOL. 71, No. 40

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

AUGUST 21, 2008

# County Schools Reopen Monday One Week Before Labor Day

by Mary Moien

Labor Day this year is as early as it can be - September 1. So Prince George's County public schools will open next Monday, August 25, one week before Labor Day. At the other end of the school calendar year schools will close on June 17, if no make-up dates are needed.

There will be two holidays in September. Schools are closed for Labor Day and for a professional day on September 26. On the first day of school parents are encouraged to walk with their children to school or to meet them at the school when they arrive by bus. Hours for all schools are shown below.

#### **Highlights of Changes**

All Greenbelt children will attend one of three elementary schools - Greenbelt Elementary, Springhill Lake Elementary and Magnolia Elementary Schools. No children are being bused this year to Berwyn Heights Elementary School.

Springhill Lake Elementary School, Magnolia Elementary School and Greenbelt Middle School require students to wear uniforms. Uniforms are not required at Greenbelt Elementary

Springhill Lake will continue to have the 5th grade as its highest grade.

Sixth graders from Springhill Lake apartments attend Greenbelt Middle School, although their classes are often separate from those of the older students.

Turning Point Academy is a public charter school located in Greenbelt East. Currently it has grades K-4. Students throughout the county can apply to attend this school.

Parents can prepay for school lunches so children will not have to carry money every day.

#### **Starting Age**

The birth dates for admission for some grades have been in flux in recent years as cut-off ages for admissions to grades have gradually pulled back from December 31 to September 1.

To be eligible for pre-kindergarten (formerly called preschool), a student must be four on or before September 1, 2008, although parents of children who will be four by October 15 can apply for admission if there are demonstrated educational needs.

For kindergarten, children must be five on or before September 1. Parents of children who will be five by October 15 may ask to have their child evaluated for admission.

For first grade, children must be six by September 1. Completion of kindergarten is required.

See SCHOOLS, page 6

# Labor Day Festival Features City's Best Fun Forward

Has summer, once again, gone by too quickly? Did you just finish cleaning up from your Fourth of July barbecue when you heard the first "back to school" ads on television? Still trying to squeeze into that bathing suit you bought in May when you had high hopes for shedding a few pounds before the first beach weekend? Have your dreams for a "summer romance" withered away like the blossoms of the crepe myrtle

Not to worry. In Greenbelt, the end of summer does not mean regret and sadness. In fact, one of Greenbelt's best qualities is that Labor Day weekend provides a magnificent opportunity for celebration, creativity and com-

The 54th annual Labor Day Festival features a schedule of events that is more dizzying than the twirliest midway ride. This article features some events from Friday and Saturday. Next week, an article will feature Sunday and Monday programs. A complete schedule is included in this is-

lights the best that Greenbelt has to offer, so it is a fitting tradition that when the Festival grounds in the Roosevelt Center parking lot open on Friday evening, August 29, one of the first events will be the announcement of the 2008 Greenbelt Citizen of the Year, on the main stage at 7 p.m. The ceremony will be preceded by a rousing selection of music by the Greenbelt Concert Band, from 6

Friday night also will be the opening session of the Festival's Miss Greenbelt pageant, on the main stage at 7:45 p.m. The contestants in the three different categories-Miss Greenbelt, Little Miss Greenbelt and Junior Miss Greenbelt—will be introduced.

From Friday night through the weekend at the Community Center, works of art by Greenbelters will be part of the Festival's Art and Photo shows. For adults on Friday night at Braden Field #2, a kickball game at 7 p.m. and a softball game at 8 p.m. are open to anyone who would like to participate.

The Labor Day Festival high- See FESTIVAL, page 8

# County School System Sets Rules and Regulations

by Mary Moien

The Prince George's County Public School system has provided information on grading, school absences and participation in extracurricular activities.

#### **Grading Policy**

Grades are based on: 1) competence as determined by tests, examinations and teacher evaluations and by demonstration of meeting performance objectives; 2) completion of assignments as determined by the quality of work done, the regularity with which they are turned in and punctuality in performing them; 3) participation in the day-to-day activities of the class; 4) daily work habits in the classroom; and 5) attendance.

Children in grades 2 to 12 receive letter grades in all classes and courses taken for credit except where other means of evaluation have been authorized.

All first graders (and some second graders) will have their progress assessed through use of the numeral 1, to indicate satisfactory progress, and the numeral 2, to indicate that the student needs more time to master a skill.

Parents of students who are not making satisfactory progress will receive notice of that situation midway through each grading period.

#### **Attendance Critical**

Students who are unlawfully absent receive a zero (0) for that day's work and the zero is averaged with other daily grades. Unlawfully absent students are not given make-up work to offset the zero grade.

In grades 9 to 12 a student who

is unlawfully absent five or more days per semester course or 10 or more days per full-year course will receive no grades or credits.

Students in grades 9 to 12 may be lawfully absent but are required to make up the work missed in a timely manner. Failure to make up missed work will result in zero grades for missing assignments.

#### **Extracurricular Activity**

In order to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities, students in grades 9 through 12 must maintain a grade point average of at least 2.0 for each grading quarter preceding the start or continuation of their participation in the activities.

Students who do not maintain the 2.0 grade point average are excluded from participation in any extracurricular activity. Participation – regardless of the activity – is prohibited beginning on the date the new report card is issued, as scheduled in the Board of Education school calendar.

The exclusion remains in effect until the student attains the required 2.0 quarter grade point average and becomes eligible to participate in a subsequent quarter's extracurricular activities.

Extracurricular activities are defined as all activities except those for which student participation is necessary to receive a grade in a specific course in which the student is currently

The 2.0 policy applies to all high school students with the exception of individual special education students who have been exempted.

# **Local Schools**

#### **Greenbelt Elementary School**

Opens 9:15 a.m. Closes 3:25 p.m. www.pgcps.org/~gbeltes/

#### Magnolia Elementary School

Closes 3:25 p.m. www.pgcps.org/~magnolia/

#### **Turning Point Academy Public Charter School** Opens 8 a.m.

Closes 2:15 p.m. www1.pgcps.org/Turningpoint

#### **Greenbelt Middle School**

Opens 9 a.m. Closes 3:40 p.m. www.pgcps.org/~gbms/

#### **Eleanor Roosevelt High** School

Opens 8:30 a.m. Closes 3:10 p.m. http://eroosevelths.pgcps.org/

# **Hours and Websites**

Opens 9:15 a.m.

#### Springhill Lake **Elementary School**

Opens 8:15 a.m. Closes 2:25 p.m. www.pgcps.org/~spring/

#### **Election Forum**

Coverage of the August 18 meeting at Greenbriar to hear citizen commentary on changing the city's election process will be in next week's issue of this paper.

# 1968 - A Seminal Year In the U.S. and Greenbelt

by James Giese

This is the first of four articles about 40 years ago, the year 1968, and how national events affected Greenbelt. Three of the articles will deal with recollections of Greenbelt's role in the Poor People's March on Washington and its one day stop here. This article recalls other events that took place that year.

Now 40 years ago, 1968 was following King's assassination. one of the most tumultuous years in modern United States history. Two controversial anti-establishment movements, civil rights and anti-Vietnam war, peaked in their strength that year culminating in citizens rioting, looting and burning throughout the country and forcing major confrontations between them and the police, military and the citizen soldiers of the National Guard. Two American leaders were assassinated, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in April and Robert F. Kennedy in June.

The first major civil rights legislation since reconstruction following the Civil War was enacted by Congress and signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson

But Johnson's war policies toward stopping the Communist takeover of Viet Nam were repudiated causing him not to seek another term of office. It also caused his vice-president, Hubert H. Humphrey, to be defeated by Richard Nixon for the office of President in November. Even so the war continued to drag on for many years. Humphrey had been nominated by the Democratic party after a tumultuous convention marked by bloody confrontations on the streets of Chicago between demonstrators and police.

#### **Riots**

Following the assassination of King, demonstrations that includ-

See **1968**, page 8

#### What Goes On

Saturday, August 23

9 a.m. to noon, Donation Drop-off, Parking Lot between Municipal Building and Community Center

Monday, August 25

7:30 p.m., Greenbelt Board of Appeals Public Hearing, Community Church

Friday, August 29 - Labor Day Festival Begins 6 p.m., Band Concert followed by Opening Ceremony at 7 p.m.

# Greenbelter Jean Cook's Life Is Full of Service

by Rebecca Boggs

"In 1971, eight months after we moved, our house was virtually gutted by fire and Greenbelt took care of us. People were so kind. We decided we never wanted to leave," says Jean Cook. "We put on additions to our house. We hope to stay. Greenbelt is a wonderful town to raise children. When our children were young they would go out to play and come back when they got hungry."

Jean and her husband Ed are originally from Rochester, N.Y. In 1971 they moved to Greenbelt after living in California during the early part of their marriage. They now have three grown sons and five granddaughters.

When I met Jean Cook, I felt very much at ease, sitting across from her and enjoying her warm smile and enthusiasm for life. She is retired now and yet works more jobs than most people; she also still manages to go to the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center five days a week to swim or lift weights. She's in great shape.

"There is even more to do now as a senior," Cook says. "As wonderful as I thought this place was for families, Greenbelt is almost more wonderful for seniors. The neatest thing is swimming in the Greenbelt pool when you see snow outside."

Cook volunteers at GIVES (Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service), where she has been president for the last seven years, and at Greenbelt Elementary School in Beth Novick's 6th grade language arts class. She gives English classes to native Spanish speakers twice a week at her church, St. Camillus, a multicultural parish in Silver Spring. She was once the choir director at St. Hugh's and has been directing the Greenbelt Combined Choir since 1975. In addition, Cook was the Miss Greenbelt Pageant director from 1982 to 1986.

#### Habitat for Humanity

Cook now works extensively for Habitat for Humanity International, a nonprofit, Christian ecumenical organization that builds houses in 90 countries and across the United States for people in need of a simple, decent place to live

Cook recently returned from El Salvador, where she and Father Mike Johnson of St. Camillus co-led a team of 20 volunteers to build Habitat homes with those in need. This is Cook's second trip to El Salvador with Habitat's Global Village program.

She also has volunteered and worked with Habitat in Bolivia, Honduras and Guatemala. Cook comments, "There is an unconditional community spirit that is engendered on these trips. I work harder there than anywhere else and it's fun; I enjoy everything about it."

"The most challenging thing about my Habitat travels," says Cook, "is the change in diet and water restrictions (due to lack of clean water)."

"I try to be open, persistent and flexible. The groups of people I have worked with are quick to become family, taking care of each other and praying together," she says.

"The children in these countries win you over. We always go to an orphanage on our trips. Habitat Global Village teams can choose what activities they want to do in their free time. Once there was a 3-year-old who put his arms out when we met, I picked him up and then he stayed with me all afternoon, just like this" – she gestures – "in my arms. I remember seeing children who have nothing and never complained about being bored. They look after each other and do with what they have."

If you see Cook around town, be sure to welcome her home. Greenbelters are grateful for all she does in our community and overseas.



Jean Cook (right) works with Marta Garcia in El Salvador in July 2008. The women are sifting sand which will be used to make cement that will hold windows in place in a house built by Habitat for Humanity.

#### **Ride Wristbands on Sale Now**

Wristband vouchers for Labor Day Festival carnival rides are available at Co-op for \$10.00. Vouchers can be purchased until Friday, August 29 at noon and used on Saturday, August 30 and Sunday, August 31 until 4 p.m. Regular price for ride wristbands will be \$20.00 on Saturday and Sunday at the carnival grounds.



#### PGCPS Gets \$6M To Improve System

Board of Education Chair Verjeana M. Jacobs, Esq. and Superintendent of Schools Dr. John E. Deasy were joined by officials from the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation and the Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation to announce the award of grants totaling \$6 million for transformation to a "Performance Management" culture in Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS).

The performance management system will enable more regular assessment of organizational effectiveness and progress toward predetermined goals and guide rewards or discontinuation of practices based on quantified outcomes. The new approach will drive program and staff accountability in every school and all central offices.

"Performance management is not a new initiative but a way to focus our existing work, energy and resources on activities that will yield the highest value for students," Deasy said. The financial commitments from the foundations will allow the district to develop the processes and tools needed for performance management.

Performance management is an operating procedure that will ultimately provide staff meaningful, predictive and timely data related to grades, attendance and other information from a centralized electronic data warehouse built with grant support. It will use data to reward employees based on performance through the new incentives and rewards program. It will enable school leaders to earn more autonomy coupled with accountability for results. It will provide decision-making data to central administrative departments, including food services, human resources and transportation, to enhance their effectiveness in supporting system-wide performance goals; and it will create clarity and transparency for students, parents, teachers, principals and county taxpayers about district and school performance.

According to Broad, PGCPS is one of the first school districts in the nation to strategically focus all of its offices and all of its resources on the core goal of improving the delivery of teaching and learning. Broad praised Deasy's and the Board of Education's commitment to raising district performance.

Two high schools, two middle schools and five elementary schools have begun to adopt performance management as they prepare for the 2008-2009 school year. None of them are in Greenbelt.

# OLD GREENBELT THEATRE WEEK OF AUG 22 Vicki Christina Barcelona (PG-13) Friday \*5:15, 7:30, 9:40 Saturday \*3, \*5:15, 7:30, 9:40 Sunday \*3, \*5:15, 7:30 Monday - Thursday \*5:15, 7:30

These shows at \$6.00

301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745

129 Centerway

www.pgtheatres.com

• • •

#### Grin Belt



"No, you can't matriculate in the Electoral College."

#### On Screen

#### Barcelona Up Close And Personal

Javier Bardem, last seen here in "No Country for Old Men," plays a Spanish painter who romances two tourists: Vicky (Rebecca Hall) and Cristina (Scarlett Johanssen), who are spending the summer in Barcelona. Shocking as a proposal of his is, it seems tame compared with the behavior of his estranged exwife (Penelope Cruz).

"Vicky Cristina Barcelona" is written and directed by Woody Allen. While I usually love his movies for the dialogue, the scene-stealer in this case may be the city of Barcelona itself. Rated PG-13 for sexual situations and smoking, the film runs 96 minutes.

- Cathy Jones

# **Greenbelt News Review**

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; James Giese, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Pat Davis, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell and Thomas X. White.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$35/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

# **Community Events**

#### Menu for Senior **Nutrition Program**

The Senior Nutrition "Food and Friendship" program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals need to be reserved by 11 a.m. the previous day to ensure that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215 for information and to make reserva-

All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for August 25 through August 29 include:

Monday - Chicken soup, chicken with curry sauce, white rice, sliced carrots, fresh melon.

Tuesday - Grape juice, ovenfried chicken, potato salad, mixed vegetables, canned pears.

Wednesday - Orange juice, oven-fried haddock with tartar sauce, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, banana.

Thursday - Tomato soup with crackers, turkey salad, corn salad, cole slaw, canned peaches.

Friday – Apple juice, baked chicken with gravy, candied sweet potatoes, broccoli, nectarine.

#### Young Named New **Museum Director**

Megan Searing Young has been hired as the new curator/director of historical programs for the Greenbelt Museum, replacing Jill St. John. St. John will be moving to Belgium for two years with her husband and child; her husband has a job there. Her last day was Friday, August 15.

Young, the museum's education/volunteer coordinator for the past year and a half, will begin her new responsibilities on September 2. Email and telephone contact information for the museum curator/director will remain unchanged.

The museum will be closed until September 2.

#### GHI Notes

Wednesday, August 27, 7:30 p.m., Companion Animal Committee, GHI Lobby

Monday, September 1, Labor Day holiday, offices closed

Tuesday, September 2, 7:15 p.m., Pre-Purchase Orientation, GHI Lobby

Tuesday, September 2, 7 p.m., Greener Greenbelt Initiative, Board Room

Wednesday, September 10, 7 p.m., Member & Communiy Relations Committee, GHI Lobby

Committee and board meetings are open; members are encouraged to attend.

#### Chevy Chase Bank **Welcomes Customers**

The Chevy Chase Bank at Beltway Plaza will host a "Customer Appreciation Day" Saturday, August 23 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visitors will be able to enter a contest to win a night on the town, enjoy refreshments and meet the branch manager and staff.

The day aims to smooth customers' transition between the branches in area Giant Food stores which will be closing in coming weeks and the larger tra-

ditional branches nearby. More information is available from 301-987-BANK or chevychasebank.com

#### Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

Summer is zipping by faster than a speeding bullet and the Labor Day Festival is fast approaching.

The Golden Age Club has been busy this summer, beginning with the picnic at Greenbelt Lake with kayaking and including lots of interesting trips and potluck

We would like to welcome our new members: Barry Moien and Heide Walter.

It was great to welcome Lori Moran back at the last meeting after her back surgery.

The August birthday luncheon will be on August 27.

I would like to remind everyone that the guide to the fall day trips is out. You may receive them in the mail and there are some in the office at the Community Center. Be sure to sign up. These trips are subsidized by the city through the Golden Age Club.

We are going apple-picking again in October.

#### **Used Belts Wanted** For Art Workshop

New Artist-in-residence Karen Arrington will lead a jewelry-making workshop at the next Artful Afternoon on Sunday, September 7 at the Greenbelt Community Center. Participants will integrate some of Karen's own beautiful, handmade ceramic beads with reclaimed leather and other materials to create unique wearable art. Donations of gently used leather belts (men's or women's) are requested prior to the workshop.

Belts will be accepted at the Community Center Welcome Desk August 29 through September 4. (Drop some off when you visit the Labor Day Festival!)

Arrington's Artful Afternoon workshop will run from 1 to 3 p.m. It is free and open to all ages.

**Labor Day Festival** 

**Used Book Sale** 

Raising Funds for Greenbelt

Elementary School PTA

Book donation drop-off

at Co-op Supermarket

August 1 to August 27

Large donation pickup available

For information call:

301-474-2041

**Holy Cross** 

Thrift Store

Every Thursday 10 - 4 p.m.

1st Saturday of the month

10 - 2 p.m.

Good, clean clothes for women,

men and children!

Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road

Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111

#### **Astronomical Star** Party on Saturday

On Saturday, August 23 Astronomical Society members will hold a star party at



Northway Field. Members of the society will begin to set up to view the moon and other celestial objects at approximately 8:15 p.m. In the event of rain or hopelessly cloudy skies the event will be cancelled without further notice.

More information is available at www.greenbeltastro.org/ events shtml.

#### GTA Weekend Social To Be Held August 30

Start Labor Day Weekend in Greenbelt East with a doubles match at the Greenbelt Tennis Association's (GTA's) Labor Day Weekend Tennis Social. The August 30 social is hosted by Greenbriar Condominium Association and will be held at the Greenbriar Community Tennis Courts located at 7600 Hanover Parkway from 8:30 a.m. to 2

The social is free for all levels. Bringing a partner is not required, as compatible players can be matched. RSVP at the GTA website, www.greenbelt. com/tennis or just show up. The rain date is August 31.

No need to play, just come out and watch. Bagels, bananas and drinks will be available or bring a dish to share.

GTA sponsors tournaments, socials and a tennis ladder to encourage competition and interaction among tennis players in the Greenbelt area. To become a member download an application from the GTA website or call Rich Majewski at 301-595-5744 or Emmett Jordan at 301-220-1025.

A Review

# GAC Undertakes Subject In Shaw Play Once Taboo

by Carol Griffith

"Mrs. Warren's Profession," now playing at the Greenbelt Arts Center, was once regarded as too scandalous for public performance. For the eight years following its publication in 1898 by famous playwright George Bernard Shaw, it could only be performed privately. The themes of the play were considered

Unfortunately, after more than a century, its themes of women's rights and their place in society are current still. Shaw's usual exposition of the hypocrisy and foibles of class and manners makes the play great entertainment along with shrewd social commentary.

Vivie Warren is a very modern girl for the times -- she has a college education, funded by her mother, and plans to use it in the work force. She has habits unheard-of by most women - she smokes cigars and drinks whiskey.

As the play begins, she has graduated college and is visiting the mother (Mrs. Warren) she barely remembers, since Vivie has spent her life in boarding schools and living with relatives. The two of them attempt to understand each other's lives and choices, as do her boyfriend and his stodgy clergyman father in a parallel subplot. The action rises nicely in the four acts to a surprising conclusion when the truth about Mrs. Warren is revealed, which was no doubt shocking to 1898 audiences.

Only one of the fine actors in "Mrs. Warren's Profession" is familiar to GAC audiences - Bill Jones. All have great acting experience and it's evident.

Special mention should be made of Jessica Heaven for assuming the role of Mrs. Warren late in production. She has done a wonderful job of portraying a complicated character.

"Mrs. Warren's Profession" will play on the Friday and Saturday evenings of August 22 and 23 and September 5 and 6, at 8 p.m. A Sunday matinee is scheduled for August 24 at 2 p.m. There will be no performances on Labor Day weekend

Reservations may be made through the box office at 301-441-8770 or at the Arts Center at 123 Centerway, located beneath the Co-op supermarket. (See ad on page 16 for more

#### **Postal Services Available**



Limited postal services are now available in the Municipal Building Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

#### Academy Stadium Theatres

Beltway Plaza Mall Center Court 301-220-1155

ALL SHOWS BEFORE 5 p.m. Adults/Seniors: \$6.50 Children: \$6.00

ALL SHOWS BEFORE NOON ON SATURDAY \$5.00

ALL SHOWS AFTER 5 p.m.

Adults: \$8.50 Students/Military: \$7.50 Children: \$6.00 Seniors: \$6.50

R = ID Required (!) = No pass, No Discount Ticket

#### Week of AUG 22

FRI. - SAT. Star Wars: The Clone Wars, PG (!) 11:45, 2:10, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45 Tropic Thunder, R 11:30, 2, 4:40, 7:10, 9:45 Death Race, R (!) 11:30, 2, 4:40, 7:20, 10 The Longshots, PG (!) 11:45, 2:10, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45 he Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor, PG-13 12. 2:30. 5. 7:30. 10 Mirrors, R (!) 12, 2:30, 5, 7:40, 10:10

The Dark Knight, PG-13

12, 3, 6:15, 9:30 The Rocker, PG-13 (!) 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 10 SUN. - TUES.

Star Wars: The Clone Wars, PG (!) 12, 2:20, 4:40, 7, 9:15 Tropic Thunder, R 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7, 9:25 Death Race, R (!) 11:30, 1:55, 4:20, 6:45, 9:15 The Longshots, PG (!) 12, 2:20, 4:40, 7, 9:15 The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon

Emperor, PG-13 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7, 9:25 Mirrors, R (!) 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7, 9:20 The Dark Knight, PG-13 11:45, 2:45, 5:45, 8:45 The Rocker, PG-13 (!) 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 6:55, 9:20

Plan to join your neighbors at the 54th Annual Labor Day Festival on Friday, August 29 through Monday, September 1 A complimentary Festival program can be found in the center of this newspaper. The program folds down into a convenient booklet so you can take it with you and enjoy every minute!

# Lions Club Bikes & Trikes Labor Day Parade

Meet at Mother & Child statue 9:30AM

Prizes awarded for best decorations

# The Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club

2008 Cheerleading and Soccer Registration

#### **Greenbelt Youth Center,** 99 Centerway Dr

(press 7) or visit us at www.greenbeltbgc.com

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Soccer registration until Sept. 8 Cheerleading registration until Sept. 12 For more information, please call 301-794-0100

# **Obituaries**

#### Dennese E. Hoppel

Dennese Elsie Hoppel, 71, died on August 13, 2008.

Born in 1937 in Seeley, Wisc. to Elsie and Gottfried Vortanz, she was raised in the Lutheran faith and remained a Lutheran throughout her life.

She graduated from Hayward Community High School in Hayward, Wisc.

In 1959 she married Robert A. Woodbeck. In 1973 she married Patrick H. Hoppel. The Hoppels moved to Greenbelt in 1974 and lived on Greendale Place.

Since her graduation from high school in 1954 until 1980 she played the organ for many Lutheran churches. Mrs. Hoppel joined Holy Cross Lutheran Church in 1974.

She was a member of the Lutheran Womens' Missionary League and served as treasurer of the local chapter for many years and was also a member of the Agape Circle. Mrs. Hoppel was chair of luncheons and casseroles for the homeless women of Bethany Women's Center. For many years she was in charge of preparing funeral lunches at Holy Cross Church.

After her husband died in 1999, she sold her house on Greendale Place and moved to Green Ridge House where she had lived since 2001.

She enjoyed helping with lunch at Green Ridge House and offered rides to the residents. She took many outings with her neighbors as well as establishing close friendships within the com-

She donated years of caring for children and people in need.

Mrs. Hoppel enjoyed swimming exercises three times a week. She also liked to camp and to surf fish.

Her husband, parents and sister Ellen Marie Green preceded her in death.

She is survived by children Karla Paolucci and her husband Daniel, Denise Hoppel, Patrick Hoppel, and Richard Hoppel and his wife, Anita; grandchildren Chelsea Brlansky and Audrey Brlansky; great-grandson Andrew James Bender; sister Linda Shagland and her husband Guy; brothers Frederick Vortanz and his wife Jeanette and Martin Vortanz and his wife Joyce.

A service was held at Holy Cross Church on August 18.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Education and Youth Department of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 6905 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt MD 20770.



# Catholic Community

of Greenbelt SUNDAY MASS, 10:00 AM

MUNICIPAL BUILDING SERVE BREAKFAST AT S.O.M.E. Sunday, August 31 Meet at St. Hugh's School Parking Lot, 6:00 AM

#### Demitri Nader

Demitri Edward Nader, who lived in Windsor Green for 25 years, died on August 12, 2008, with loved ones by his side. He was the son of Lebanese immigrants, Helen and Edward Nader. He was born in Washington, D.C. and graduated from Eastern High School in 1945.

As a teenager during World War II, he worked as a messenger with Air Raid wardens to help monitor blackout restrictions. He was a volunteer aircraft spotter as well for the Defense Department, manning various positions around Washington, D.C., alerting the department to any and all aircraft in the area. He was recognized by the United States Navy Bureau of Aeronautics as a scale model aircraft maker. These models were used by the government for training naval pilots to recognize enemy aircraft.

He was active in the high school Cadet Corps, attaining the rank of second lieutenant before graduating. After graduation, he worked for a short time for 20th Century Fox Film Corporation in the advertising department. Shortly thereafter he was one of the last draftees to be inducted into the U.S. Army. He completed basic training at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Aberdeen, Md. He was schooled in automotive and gun parts and transferred to Camp Stoneman, Calif., until being honorably discharged.

Under the G.I. Bill of Rights he attended and completed a course at the National School of Photography. He worked for the camera repair department at the Fuller and D'Albert Photo Supply

Company.

He had a short career with the Department of Justice, FBI, working in the inventory and supply division. Leaving the FBI, he moved into a sales career with the baking industry. First he worked for "Bambi" Bakers then the Crusty Pie Company. From there he began a 40-year career with Capital Cigar and Tobacco Company until his retirement.

He was associated with the Washington Fireworks Company supplying fireworks to local stand operators for the 4th of July celebrations. He was also part owner of a pyrotechnics company, staging and producing fireworks displays, thrilling thousands of people from Virginia to Connecticut. Seasonally he worked in Elkton, Md., at various factories. He made several trips to China and Taiwan to help select fireworks used in professional shows and retail sales.

After retirement he began working part time in the travel industry. He attended St. George Eastern Antiochan Church and was a member of St. Johns Masonic Lodge #11, Washington, D.C., as well as the American Legion, Greenbelt and various other orga-

He is survived by a daughter, Susan A. Earman and son-inlaw, Wilson F. Earman of Colonial Beach, Va.; a son, Steven A. Nader of Santa Cruz, Calif.; and a granddaughter, Jennifer N. Putnam of Gulfport, Miss.

Contributions in his memory may be made to Hospice of the Chesapeake, 8724 Jericho City Drive, Landover, MD 20785 or the American Cancer Society.

#### Jeffrey W. Ball

Former Greenbelter Jeffrey Ball, 49, died on Wednesday, August 13, 2008, of complications following stomach surgery.

Mr. Ball attended North End School, Greenbelt Jr. High School and Parkdale High School.

He had many varied life experiences traveling the country as a young man in search of work. He had done everything from pick blueberries with Native Americans in Maine to work in the oil fields of Texas as well as countless more mundane jobs from coast to coast. For the past 20 years he had been selling building supplies to commercial contractors throughout the D.C.

His extensive travel and encounters with a wide variety of people gave him an appreciation for those on the margins of society. Some have said that he

Sundays:

was their best friend or their only friend. He had a quiet unassuming personality, coupled with a quick wit, that made him easy to like and to have as a friend. He loved books and politics, and enjoyed helping others.

For the second half of his life he became very interested in gardening and loved to take care of his flowers and plants at his mother's Greenbelt home. He would couple his gardening with casual family gatherings. He took delight in his large and loving family.

Mr. Ball is survived by a daughter, Sabine; former wife, Karen Ball and her children Jennifer and Joey; mother, longtime Greenbelt resident Patricia Ball; and brothers Russell and Mat-

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

#### Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

August 24, 10 a.m.

for the Unitarian Universalist Association

"Waging Peace" by Guest Minister and Speaker Rev. Keith Kron, director of the Office of Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Transgender Concerns

#### St. George's Episcopal/ Anglican Church 7010 Glenn Dale Road

(Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road) 301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org

> 8:00 am Simple, quiet Mass Christian education for all ages 9:00 am

> 10:00 am Sung Mass with organ and folk music, ASL interpreted

1:30 pm Signed Mass (last Sunday of each

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian

synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your

extended family in the 21st century.

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month,

Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children.

Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM.

Educational programs for children K-12 and for adults.

Opportunity for leadership development.

Interfaith families are welcome.

Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities.

Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program.

Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors.

Congregation

Mishkan Torah

month only)

**Wednesdays:** 7:00 pm Simple, quiet Mass

#### Bahá'í Teachings: How does God's eternal covenant work??

According to God's eternal covenant, whenever humanity moves away from Him and forgets His Teachings, a Manifestation of God appears and makes God's will and purpose known to us. The Manifestations of God are those special beings who reveal to humanity

the word and the will of God. "The Holy Manifestations of God, the divine prophets, are the first Teachers of the human race . . . The divine Manifestations did not reveal themselves for the purpose of founding a nation, sect or faction. Their purpose . . . is the training of the people.

#### Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

1-800-22-UNITE www.bci.org/greenbeltbahai 301-345-2918 www.bahai.us



Hillside & Crescent Roads Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings

> www.greenbeltucc.org Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m. Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision...

#### Greenbelt Community Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Learn

About

Islam

# **GIVE THANKS**

Every breath that we breathe is a blessing from God and we learn from the Prophet Solomon (peace be upon him) to recognize these blessings each day. The Holy Qur'an tells us how he never

forgot to be thankful to God. He is quoted to have said, "This is by the grace of my Lord, to test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! And if any is grateful, it is (a gain) for his own soul; but if any is ungrateful, truly my Lord is free of all needs, supreme in - The Holy Qur'an, 27:40

Count your blessings every day. For more information about gratefulness from an Islamic perspective, call 301-982-9463 or email info@searchislam.org or visit www.searchislam.org.



# **Bible Study & Worship**

9:30 "Good Morning!!" Coffee and Snacks 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Worship

PLEASE COME AND WORSHIP WITH US

Greenbelt Youth Center 99 Centerway (Behind the Community Center)

Pastor Lou Redd 301-474-4499 410-340-8242 (cell) ...living life together

# **Obituaries**

### Community Activist Eileen Peterson Dies

Greenbelt community activist Eileen Peterson died Monday, July 21, 2008, at Doctors Community Hospital in Lanham due to complications following back surgery. She was 71.

Mrs. Peterson was best known for her community service, which resulted in the rescue and founding of a number of Greenbelt cultural institutions.

In 1983, she and Barbara Simon co-founded the Friends of the Greenbelt Library to provide support for the local public library. "I was the spokesperson but Eileen was the brains," says Simon, who reports that Mrs. Peterson brought knowledge of politics to the job, as a result of earlier volunteer work for the Democratic Party.

This knowledge became important in February 1995, when Prince George's County Executive Wayne Curry threatened to shut down Greenbelt Library and five other county libraries for budget reasons. Mrs. Peterson organized a protest march, spearheaded a petition drive that collected over 37,000 signatures and networked with people at other county libraries. In time, the libraries' budget was saved and Mrs. Peterson helped to form a new organization, Friends of the Prince George's County Libraries.

Mrs. Peterson also co-founded Greenbelt Library's bookstore. A library supervisor commented in 1997 that Mrs. Peterson was "our resident PR person and community goodwill ambassador. Eileen is the consummate advocate for libraries and library staff" in Prince George's County.

Mrs. Peterson was active in other arts institutions as well. Throughout the 1990s, she helped in the fight to save Old Greenbelt Theatre, an Art Deco movie theater that had been built as part of Greenbelt's original 1937 community. She was a founding board member of the Greenbelt Foundation for the Arts. She began a yearly Arts Festival that brought craftsfolk to the city's Roosevelt Center. She served on the city's Arts Advisory Board, was a founding member of the Greenbelt Arts Center and was a volunteer for the Friends of the New Deal Cafe Arts (FOND-

She also volunteered for the after-school art program of the Greenbelt Association for the Visual Arts. Many of Mrs. Peterson's community service projects over the years involved children's education, a subject that she showed interest in at an early age.

#### Early Years

Born as Eileen Jean Lester in Rochester, N.Y., on April 23, 1937, Mrs. Peterson was the daughter of Robert Earle Lester and Josephine Marie Cristantiello Lester. She spent much of her childhood living amidst her mother's relatives in the Italian-American neighborhood in Rochester.

"The oldest of four, I have always been a caregiver," she wrote a few years before her death. Because of family difficulties caused by her parents' divorce, she found herself in the position of often taking care of her younger brothers and sister.

She later moved to her father's home in Los Angeles. She

graduated in 1955 from Lynwood Academy in California, took a year off to earn money for college and then entered Walla Walla College in Washington State.

She had originally planned to study to become a kindergarten teacher but in college she showed a literary bent, serving as editor of the student literary magazine and feature editor of the student newspaper. In 1961, she graduated with a B.A. in English and promptly married a fellow student journalist and English major, William S. Peterson. She would remain married to him until they divorced in 1994.

In the first five years after her graduation, as her husband pursued graduate degrees, she lived in Madison, Wisc., and Chicago, eventually settling just outside the rural town of Berrien Springs, Mich., where her husband was hired as a teacher at Andrews University

Mrs. Peterson worked briefly in the university's public relations department and as a proofreader for the university press but turned to full-time homemaking after the birth of her first child in 1963. A second child was born in 1969. In 1971, the family moved to Greenbelt.

#### Writing and Publishing

Mrs. Peterson did not allow her English major to go to waste over the years. In the early 1960s she was placed in charge of a scholarly research segment of the Herman Melville edition published by Northwestern University Press and Chicago's Newberry Library.

In 1975, Mrs. Peterson helped her husband found The Cottage Press, a home-based printing business. Sitting at an enormous electronic typesetter that gave off noxious fumes when pages were printed, she painstakingly typed up books that were published by Oxford University Press, University of California Press, the Browning Institute and other presses.

She volunteered as a staff writer for the Greenbelt News Review from 1984 until her death and also wrote occasional poems for her own enjoyment.

#### Hobbies

Amidst her professional and volunteer work, Mrs. Peterson found time to pursue various hobbies such as collecting newspapers reporting on major world events and planting 50 brightly flowering forsythia shrubs on her lawn.

In the 1970s, she played tennis in Greenbelt tournaments. A couple of weeks before her death, when she received a phone call, she politely declined to talk immediately, saying, "Wimbledon is on."

As a result of accompanying her husband on research trips to England, she acquired an additional interest in soccer. In later years, she was an avid fan of D.C. United, often taping news articles about the soccer team to her apartment door.

Her musical interests ranged from classical to folk to rock. In her final years, she subscribed to such magazines as Rolling Stone and SPIN, wore rock T-shirts and joined younger folks in roaring her approval when attending heavy metal concerts.

"My son had a classical gui-



tarist play at his inn and Eileen asked what his name was," reports her brother Dean Lester. "She recognized who the guitarist was, she knew what sort of guitar he used, she knew who made the guitar."

#### **Later Professional Work**

As her youngest child approached adulthood in 1985, Mrs. Peterson returned to the workforce, pursuing jobs related to children and young people. She worked in the Registrations and Records department of University College within the University of Maryland at College Park and later served as an administrative assistant in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Children's Hospital in D.C.

Her final jobs were at a series of child care facilities in Greenbelt. "I have a degree in English literature and journalism," she concluded a few years before her death, "but all the words I have ever written and the projects I've experienced pale before the sheer joy of every day with eight 'child-buds' between two and four-and-a-half opening to the world with my help."

#### Survivors and Memorials

Mrs. Peterson's survivors include her children, Heather Peterson of Greenbelt and Glenn "Pete" Peterson of Baltimore, and her siblings in California: Dean Lester of Long Beach, Robert Lester of Loma Linda, and Llona Lester Rowell of Exeter.

Eileen Peterson's family has arranged for several memorial events to occur. Everyone is welcome to take part in these events:

A memorial blog has been started at http://community.live journal.com/eileenpeterson for anyone to post their memories of Mrs. Peterson and for samples of her writings.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Sept. 6, at 1 p.m. at St. Luke's Parish (Episcopal), 4002 53rd St. (at Annapolis Road), Bladensburg. The Rev. August Peters, who baptized Mrs. Peterson's children in 1973, will preside.

A memorial open house will be held throughout Sunday, Sept. 7, starting at noon. It will take place at her former home, 9 Maplewood Court and will feature photographs and memorabilia.

Donations may be made in memory of Eileen Peterson to the Friends of the New Deal Cafe Arts, c/o Chris Logan (FONDCA Treasurer), 37H Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 (http://www.newdealcafe.com/fondca), or to Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity, 3326 Keswick Road, Baltimore, MD 21211 (http://www.chesapeakehfh.org/howtohelp/donate\_gifts.php)

Heather Peterson

<u>In Memoriam</u>

#### Ronnie Summers

Ronnie Summers lost his bout with cancer a few weeks ago at the age of 64. Ronnie was a friend of mine. His wife Marsha Bussard Summers remains a good friend. We met on the river that represents the joining of all the little family streams and neighbor relations of Greenbelt. Marsha was the daughter of Herb and Tina Bussard who lived in the 2 Court of Plateau. Mr. Bussard drove to downtown D.C. in a carpool that included my mother after she went to work when I was three. Mrs. Bussard watched me during the day for a time while my mother worked. Funny how it all comes together - but then, that's Greenbelt.

Ronnie and Marsha were married for 45 years and they lived in the same house on Ridge Road for 40 of those years. Ronnie was from Lanham. At the time I met him he was working at his first really significant job as an auto mechanic at Scanlon Fleet Service in Bladensburg. Some years later Ronnie left that trade and pursued work as a self-employed carpenter. One of his contracts was with Tom McAndrew's Window Service in Greenbelt. He had more or less retired two years before his death.

Besides his wife, Ronnie left behind a brother, Gary; a sister Tami; his two children, Jeff and his wife Suzy of Boonsboro; and Cindy Kaszi and her husband Dave of Westminster; grandchildren Brittany and Matthew Summers and Alex and Ryan Kaszi.

We enjoyed camping with the family at Swallow Falls when our children were little. Ronnie also

liked to barbeque ribs and often hosted cookouts at his home and at picnics during the summer. Ronnie had a van and got involved with the bands I was in for several years, carrying the equipment and helping to set it up at various performances. He usually wore a workman's cap, although in his later years he left his black-gray curly hair uncovered. Ronnie spent much of the past few years with his grandchildren, whom he adored. Jeff's daughter Brittany is 17 and his son Matthew is 3. Cindy's two boys Alex and Ryan are 10 and 8, respectively. They all called Ronnie "Dad-Dad" and returned his love fully.

I attended a memorial service for Ronnie with another good family friend, Paul Fletcher, on August 4 in Boonsboro. Jeff gave the eulogy. It was tough for him. But he related to me later that he had driven his Dad around to several places Ronnie wanted to visit before he got too sick and that he treasured this time alone with his Dad. Gary Summers also spoke and related that during a particularly rough time in his life, he did not think he could have survived without the love and support of Ronnie and Marsha and that Ronnie never judged him. One of Jeff's neighbors spoke and noted that during the time Ronnie spent in Boonsboro staying with Jeff, Ronnie had been like the father she'd never had. Jeff's closing remark in his eulogy was "I miss him already." Well said, Jeff.

Rick Ransom

#### Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt



Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410 Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 10:00am Prayer Meeting Sun. 9:45 am



# Greenbelt Baptist Church 101 Greenhill Road

nel

Greenbelt, MD 20770 – (301) 474-4212 www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Welcome! Sunday Sunday

9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service

Wednesday 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

ALL are Welcome!

"Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family Through Loving Service"

#### ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH 135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4322



Mass Schedule: Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd

4 HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

# HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH 6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

Summer Schedule

Memorial Day – Labor Day

Sunday 9:30 am Worship Service



Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@verizon.net

### SCHOOLS continued from page 1

Because of complexities with admission to first grade, parents can call the school system at 301-808-4000 for more information.

#### **Documents**

New students need to bring all necessary paperwork when registering for school. This applies to new students and transferring students at all age levels.

Students must have six specific documents with them when registering. These include birth certificate, immunization record, child's social security number, proof of residency, name and address of previous school and the child's last report card.

Immunizations needed include diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, poliomyelitis, measles (rubeola) and rubella (German measles). Preschoolers may need additional immunizations. Newly enrolled pre-kindergartners through first graders also need a lead screening certificate.

Proof of residency in Prince George's County could include a deed or an apartment rental contract. The importance of bringing the student's last report card was also emphasized as the courses taken and grades received can help place the child quickly in the appropriate classroom.

#### Attendance

State law requires school attendance for every child between the ages of five and 16. All children in the State of Maryland are required to attend kindergarten or an alternative program. A law, passed several years ago, lowered the age of compulsory school attendance to five years of age. It also requires that children attend kindergarten before entering first grade.

The law permits some exemptions. Five-year-olds may be enrolled in a child care center or Head Start or home school program. When appropriate, a child may be granted a one-year level-of-maturity waiver.

A parent or guardian of a child who attended an alternative program must register the child for first grade before the opening of school in the school year in which the child becomes six years old and must provide documentation showing proof of attendance in the alternate setting. Documentation includes the date the child enrolled and the number of days the child was absent.

A six-year-old child who moves into Maryland who has not had a kindergarten experience may be enrolled in either kindergarten or first grade. The local school system will determine the appropriate grade placement.

#### **Meal Prices**

After several years of steady prices, lunch will cost more this year. Elementary school children's lunch will cost \$2.00. Lunch for middle and high schoolers is \$2.25. Reducedprice lunches are 40 cents for all grades. Breakfast for all students is \$1.25. Milk is 50 cents. Adult lunch is \$3.50. Some children may qualify for free milk. All prices are subject to change.

Children will be bringing home information about free or reduced cost lunches close to the first day of school.

From Asian pears to zucchini, more than 24 different Maryland-grown fruits and vegetables will be featured on school lunch menus during the 2008-2009 school year. This program will bring more Maryland-grown foods to school lunches, educate students about where their food comes from, how it is produced and the benefits of a healthy diet. The Maryland Department of Agriculture also will provide teachers with educational materials to integrate into their lessons and help students make the connection between their school lunch menus and the agricultural process.

#### **Expulsion Policy**

Strict standards will continue to be upheld for drug, alcohol and weapons (including knives) abuse. Students need to be aware that none of these items may be brought to school at any time and that expulsion will result should the rules be broken. According to the Code of Student Conduct students will be expelled for the first offense involving the use or possession of weapons. Should a child bring a loaded weapon to school, the parent will be prosecuted under state law.

For incidents involving drugs or alcohol, students will be expelled for the first offense involving distribution and the second offense involving possession. Most of these students will not be eligible for re-admission to a Prince George's County school until the following fall semester. They must also present documentation of satisfactory participation in an alcohol/drug treatment program.

#### **Extracurricular Events**

High school students need to have a 2.0 or better grade point average in order to participate in extracurricular sports or activities. Averages will be computed quarterly.

#### **Medication Policy**

The Department of Health and Human Services within Prince George's County Public Schools, acting on a recommendation from the State of Maryland, changed school policy several years ago regarding the dispensing of prescription and non-prescription medicine to students.

No medicines will be given to students without a physician's medication authorization form PS-51 or PS51-EPIPEN. Forms are available at all schools. All medications will be kept in the health room and not taken to the child's classroom.

Parents are asked to inform the school principal, health services staff and the classroom teacher of any known allergy or serious health problem their child(ren) may have. Every effort will be made to protect all students from injury and to provide a healthy environment.

Students will be transported by ambulance to the nearest medical facility should they require emergency treatment that cannot be provided at the school site. Parents will be notified as soon as possible.

#### Websites

All schools in Greenbelt have a website (see box for website addresses). Some are more detailed than others and, as of mid-August, most had not been updated to reflect the new school year. Some schools have a list of needed school supplies on their sites.

The Prince George's County school system has an elaborate website (www.pgcps.org) containing general information about the school system, as well as detailed information on bus schedules, policy issues, future plans, school board meetings and agendas and information about individual schools in the system.

The most popular site at the county level is a listing of lunch menus for an entire month. Students, parents and community members are encouraged to access their school website. Greenbelters without children in school may want to access this site to learn more about the school sys-

One particularly useful service available to parents is an email notification that is issued if schools close early for any reason. Parents can find this service on the parents page under weather-related closings.

tem and its philosophy and ac-

#### **Emergency Closings**

When schools must be closed, opened later than usual or closed early because of weather or other emergency conditions, an announcement will be made over all Washington area radio and TV stations. In order to keep telephone lines open for emergency calls, parents are requested not to call the schools, central office or radio stations. When schools are closed early, bus transportation will be available for those students who are bused.

#### **Bus Schedules**

Since school bus schedules have been computerized, the school system has been unable to provide Greenbelt bus schedules to the News Review. Elementary school students are considered "walkers" if they live within 1.5 miles of school; the radius for middle school and high school students is two miles. For more information call the school system Department of Transportation at 301-952-6570.

#### Volunteer at School

Volunteers help enhance education for students in the Prince George's County school system. Parents, students, neighbors, friends, business and government employees, crafts people, retirees and anyone who has time to share is invited to be a volunteer.

Volunteer activities include tutoring children individually or in small groups; aiding teachers in reading, mathematics, handwriting, science, English as a Second Language or any area of interest or sharing skills and talents, job expertise or life experience, as special resources for classroom instruction.

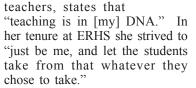
The volunteer could assist staff in the school office, media center, health room or cafeteria. Those unable to travel to a school could volunteer to help from home by making instructional materials, typing, making displays and carrying out many other activities.

fer assistance.

# Baker Retires from ERHS, Keeps the Music Coming

by Paula Clinedinst

After 30 years of teaching music at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS), Choir Director Dr. Barbara Baker retired at the end of the 2008 school year. She is a legend, truly an asset to the art of teaching music. She will be missed. Dr. Baker, who comes from a long line of



In her retirement she plans to continue teaching and conducting at the community level and also editing and writing for Alliance Music Publishers. Dr. Baker also would like to get more sleep and, after 30 years of enriching the lives of her students, she deserves it.

#### Mentors

Dr. Baker's inspiration to teach music came from several people but most notable are two professors from the University of North Carolina (UNC)-Greensboro, where she was a student. Her college choir director, Dr. Richard Cox, was "the epitome of an outstanding musician and director," she states and she remembers that his students were in fear and in awe of him. Dr. Cox broadened his students' horizons, teaching all styles and all periods of music, which is something Dr. Baker took with her to use in her teaching at ERHS.

The second inspiration for Dr. Baker was Barbara Bair, her methods professor at UNC-Greensboro, who was "fast-paced and energetic and was a wonderful model of what public school teachers should be." Taking from Bair's lessons, Dr. Baker taught her students to "do it right, prepare, work hard and treat everyone with respect."

In this same vein, she says that children have great ideas and they should be listened to but a teacher's job is to be the teacher, not friend- or adult-of-the-month. "Teachers should lead children to find and discover on their own."

#### **International Teaching**

In leading her students to various musical discoveries, Dr. Baker taught songs in French, German, Russian, Spanish, Swahili, Welsh, Serbian, Korean and Contact the local school to of- Italian, among others. To do

so she would find the translation and perfect the pronunciation before introducing a piece to the students. Sometimes these were pieces she learned when she attended national and international conferences and workshops and brought back to Dr. Barbara Baker her classes.

> She hopes to continue the international side of teaching music and return to Europe, where she once taught gospel music to international students from Spain, Poland, France, Italy, Britain, Ireland and Belgium. "I love doing guest appearances," says Dr. Baker. "I find a chorus that needs a conductor, spend an intense two-to-three days with the chorus, and then it's over. No bathroom passes, I can live without that!"

#### Appearances

One of the first festivals Dr. Baker attended, as a black female conductor with a relatively new choir from ERHS, was in 1980 in Boston. Other directors were almost rude and dismissive of her and the students from Greenbelt. When ERHS won the competition, everyone wanted to know: Where is this little school?

"I was proud of the way our kids behaved, then and since, and have gotten letters from various hotels saying our kids are the best behaved," says Dr. Baker.
"It's always a delight to get unsolicited comments."

Her students have sung at the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall, and "performance aside, it's a wonderful relationship the children have with each other; they're civilized."

Much in the way Sally Wagner speaks of her band (which went to Beijing this summer for festivities leading up to the Summer Olympics), Dr. Baker applauds her students and is proud to have taken them to many places around the world.

#### **Teaching at ERHS**

For many years ERHS' music department was all female but last school year it had two women and two men. "Everybody was good in their own discipline," says Dr. Baker but the professionalism extended beyond the respective areas of music.

For example, she recalls times

See **BAKER**, page 12

#### **County Dress Code**

Springhill Lake Elementary and Magnolia Elementary schools and Greenbelt Middle School require uniforms. Other Greenbelt schools will follow Prince George's County dress code requirements:

- · A headdress can be worn indoors for religious or health reasons only.
- Shirts and blouses should be continuous from neckline to waist. The entire mid-section should be covered. There can be no tank tops or muscle shirts; no clothing with vulgar language, obscene pictures, weapons, or drug/alcohol products; and no see-through clothing.
- Skirts, dresses, shorts and spandex skirts should be approximately six inches below the buttocks or not shorter than fingertip level.
- Pants should be secured at the waist no sagging below the waist to expose undergarments.
- Tights, stretch pants, leggings and spandex body suits must be worn with clothing long enough to cover buttocks.
  - Shoes must be worn.

# GIVE BLOOD, **GIVE LIFE**

There is an urgent need for blood particularly around the holiday season. Contact the American Red Cross today.

1-800-GIVE-LIFE



# City Information

#### **MEETINGS FOR AUGUST 25-29**

Monday, August 25th, 7:30pm GREENBELT BOARD OF AP-PEALS-PUBLIC HEARING, Greenbelt Community Center.

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held, contact the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 or at cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov.

#### **VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES**

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups.

Vacancies exist on the: Advisory Committee on Education, Arts Advisory Board, Park & Recreation Advisory Board, Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee, Youth Advisory Committee.

For more info call 301-474-8000.

#### **Greenbelt Action Center**

The City of Greenbelt has launched a new feature to its Greenbelt CityLink website that will enhance its ability to communicate and respond to its citizens, and allow citizens to search Frequently Asked Questions, submit their own questions, or request services from city departments and track their status.

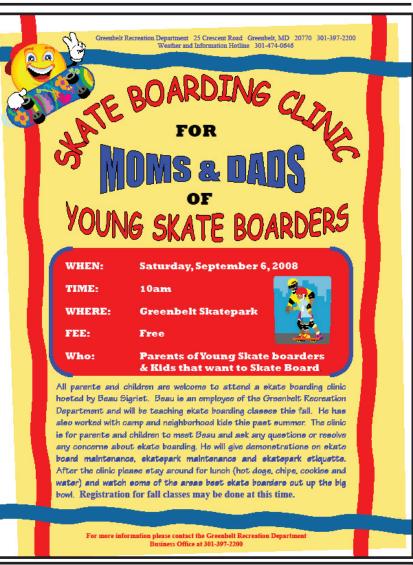
To visit the Greenbelt Action Center, visit: www.greenbeltmd.gov.

Visit Greenbelt CityLink at www.greenbeltmd.gov for updated information on events.

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Greenbelt Board of Appeals Variance Application 08-001-V

Notice is hereby given that the Greenbelt Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on August 25, 2008 at 7:30pm in the Greenbelt Community Center (Room 114 Senior Classroom), 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt MD on an application filed by Mr. Ole Hass for consideration of a request for a variance of 2 feet from the front yard setback requirement and a variance of 2 feet from the side yard setback requirement for the purpose of allowing the homeowner to remove an existing carport and construct an addition to the detached, singlefamily home located at 129 Northway. For more information please contact Terri Hruby at 301-345-5417.



## GREENBELT PETS OF THE MONTH



FRECKLES: An adorable and loving Jack Russell mix. Freckles is a 2 year old female that loves taking walks and playing catch. She loves one on one attention and will curl up on your lap. She is looking to join your family as an only dog.



SNICKERDOODLE: A one-year old neutered male. He is quiet and shy and gets along well with other cats. He loves to play with his friends or looking out the window. He would love to brighten your home.

For more information on Freckles or Snickerdoodle, or any of the other wonderful animals at The Greenbelt Animal Shelter, call 301.474.6124

#### **DONATION DROP-OFF:**

American Rescue Workers
Saturday, August 23rd from 9:00 a.m.-12:00p.m. in the parking lot between
City Office and Community Center

Info: City of Greenbelt Recycling Office at 301-474-8303.

Donation drop-off is now twice a month on the second and fourth Saturdays.

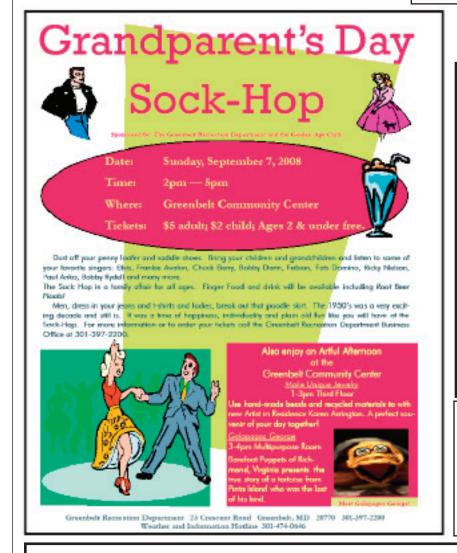
#### CITY OF GREENBELT JOB OPENINGS

OFFICE ASSOCIATE – Full-time, M-F 8:30-5:00. Handle clerical and receptionist duties for Greenbelt Community Center. Must enjoy working with the public. High School Diploma or GED. Good organizational skills; Word and Excel required. (\$30,534.40/A + excellent benefits).

INSPECTOR (Community Development) – Position is assigned to the Department of Planning and Community Development and is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the city's housing and property maintenance code, construction code, sediment control regulations and other related codes/regulations. Minimum requirements: AA Degree in engineering, architecture, public administration, planning, housing or related field; experience in building, housing or civil construction inspection; or equivalent combination of education and experience. Valid Maryland driver's license. Ability to obtain BOCA and state sediment control inspection certification within one year. Salary: \$35,110 with excellent benefits.

POLICE CADET: \$25,896/yr + benefits. To perform, as a Police officer trainee, routine field and clerical duties. Varied tasks including maintenance activities in and around police facilities, transportation, inventory of equipment and support of minor clerical functions; learn job related material primarily through oral instruction and observation. Min. requirements: 18-20 years of age; U.S. citizen; High School Diploma or GED; valid drivers license; vision correctable to 20/20; ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions in the English language; ability to lift and carry 50+ pounds 20 feet or more; work in variety of weather conditions; ability to walk, bend and kneel. Drug screen, background check, written exam and physical agility to be scheduled at a later date.

Application required: City of Greenbelt Personnel, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD, 20770, call job line 301-474-1872 or www.greenbeltmd.gov for application. EOE.



# 1968 continued from page 1

ed confrontations with authority and the burning and looting of businesses took place in more than 100 American cities. Two of the worst were in Washington, D.C. and Baltimore with Greenbelt midway between.

In Washington the demonstrations, rioting, burning and looting centered in the area around 14th and U Streets. According to an article in Wikipedia, more than 13,600 troops and 1,750 National Guard members were called out to support the 3,100 member police department. There were 12 people killed, 6,100 arrested and over 900 stores burned.

In Baltimore, rioting did not begin until the second day following King's assassination. Governor Spiro T. Agnew called out the National Guard and then requested federal troops. More than 5,000 came to the city's aid. Comments by Agnew about black leaders not doing enough to quell the disturbances got him the national publicity that helped him to be named Nixon's vice-presidential running mate.

Although the civil disobedience never extended to the suburbs, Greenbelters, then mostly white, felt the pain and fear emanating from the two cities. Many Greenbelters, longtime liberals and supporters of civil rights, shared the pain of loss felt by so many blacks. Others feared that demonstrators and rioters, in their anger, would march out to torch the suburbs. The events caused the temporary shut down of the government and business, forcing many to stay home. A few Greenbelters, members of the National Guard, were called to active duty. One was Gary Stenhouse, assistant to the Greenbelt city manager, who patrolled the streets of Baltimore but never saw rioting.

#### **Local Issues**

Greenbelters, who always enjoyed controversy but not physical confrontation, had other major local issues to be concerned about, as well. In January, the Maryland Circuit Court found the Greenbelt News Review and its president, Alfred Skolnik, to be guilty of libeling developer Charles Bresler after articles about him were published, one of which in particular reported that a citizen had called a development proposal he had made to the city "blackmail." The jury awarded Bresler a judgment of \$17,500. Greenbelt citizens led by Albert Herling and Charles Schwan, already had organized in support of their newspaper and raised sufficient funds to cover the judgment and appeal costs. One major event was a fund-raising ball held on May 10. It was not until 1970 that the case was finally decided by the unanimous decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in favor of the newspaper.

Two other lawsuits between the city and Bresler and his development associates, were judged that year in the city's favor, resulting in a 3.3-acre parcel of land adjacent to Charlestowne North being deeded to the city as intially promised by the developers. The developers had tried to keep it to use for a swimming pool site for the new eight-story apartment building.

In other developmental matters, a groundbreaking ceremony was held in March for the new Greenbelt Library, a branch of the county library system. The county approved plans to extend the METRO Green Line to the Capital Beltway in Greenbelt. The land upon which Capital Office Park is located was approved by the county for office use zoning. A revised county master plan for the city was greeted by city officials with many compliments, three years after the original plan had met strong citizen opposition. The city council authorized and the citizens approved at a special referendum a \$950,000 city bond issue to acquire parkland, build tennis courts, enlarge the Greenbelt Youth Center, build another recreation center in Springhill Lake, undertake road construction and build an addition to the fire

#### Gun Control

As a result of the King shooting and its aftermath, the city council joined with other Metropolitan Washington Council of Government members in support of stronger gun control measures, helped persuade the Maryland Municipal League to endorse gun control legislation in a close vote and then agreed to consider adopting a city ordinance. However, by the time it was formally considered, gun control opponents had gotten organized and council had discovered that its powers were so limited by the state (the city could not regulate the sale of guns, for example) as to be inconsequential without statewide measures being taken. Council then voted the measure down.

#### Republicans

By Labor Day Republicans had made some inroads into the traditionally Democratic town. The parade marshals for the Labor Day Parade were David Eisenhower, the grandson of a Republican president and his fiancé Julie Nixon, daughter of the Republican presidential nominee. At the festival, the Young Republicans had the most popular fund-raising activity, a crab feast with beer included. (Thereafter, both the Labor Day Festival Committee and the city council banned beer in public parks and the festival grounds.) The Young Republicans also sponsored an old fashioned political rally with all the local candidates invited to speak and County Council Chair Gladys Spellman serving as Mistress of Ceremonies. Young Eisenhower also participated.

In November, the Republicans went on to win the national election with Nixon and Agnew, the U.S. Senate seat with Charles Mathias, a liberal Republican who unseated conservative Democrat Daniel Brewster and the Congressional District serving Greenbelt, where Republican Larry Hogan defeated incumbent Hervey Machen, a Democrat. Greenbelt stayed Democratic, however, but with smaller pluralities.

#### Poor People's March

Prior to his assassination, Dr. King had been planning a massive demonstration in Washington on behalf of poor people of all races throughout the country. There was to be a march on Washington. After his death, the remaining leadership of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference decided to proceed with this demonstration. A very jittery Washington steeled itself for this event taking place little more than a month after the rioting, an event which had taken on new strength as a result of the assassination.

Many Greenbelters played a small role in supporting the Poor

People's Campaign by hosting a large group of marchers from the Northeast for lunch at two city churches, St. Hugh's and Greenbelt Community, on their way to Washington. Others, however, were most unhappy at this happening in Greenbelt and some were fearful that there might be looting and pillaging in town.

In subsequent issues of this paper, as space permits, will be three accounts of what happened the day the poor people came to town.

# Canine Officers Receive Top Honors

Greenbelt's canine police officers and K-9s were recognized for top honors during the U.S. Police Canine Association Region III Annual Awards Banquet held March 8 at Greenbelt American Legion Post #136. Region III includes Maryland, Delaware, the District, Virginia and West Virginia, one of the most active regions in the

The most distinguished canine team award was presented to Greenbelt Cpl. Robert Musterman and K-9 partner Cigo for "2007 Top Dog," which is awarded to the team that has the highest combined PD-1 and Tracking Trail score for the year. Musterman and Cigo earned 838.17 out of a possible 880 points, scoring a perfect 180 in tracking certification.

MPO Barry Byers and canine partner Rex received top honor for 2007 Top "Patrol" Canine Case of the Year.

On November 1, 2007, MPO Byers and Rex responded to a county-wide call for an officer in trouble. A robbery victim had flagged down a Prince George's County police officer in the area of 67th Avenue and Riverdale Road. The officer got out of his vehicle to assist, unaware that the suspect was still nearby, and was fired upon by the suspect.

Byers was requested to deploy Rex due to the long distance from which county K-9s were responding. K-9 Rex located the suspect's track and discovered several spent shell casings near the 6700 block of 67th Avenue. He tracked to a dumpster, then began to air scent until he reached the end of a fence line. He reverted to tracking and entered the backyard of a home where there were two sheds.

Unclear as to which shed the suspect had chosen for his hiding place, Byers released Rex to locate the suspect. Rex located the suspect hiding underneath the second shed. Byers and the cover team approached and took the suspect into custody without further incident. MPO Byers requested that officers check the site of the dumpster, where a .45 caliber semi-auto handgun was located that the suspect had discarded.

Due to Byers professionalism and diligence, he was able to conduct a difficult search in a high foot traffic area, coordinating multiple police agencies and air support, resulting in the apprehension of a dangerous felon.

The same two Greenbelt canine teams received Triple Crown honors for achieving certification in the regional tracking class this winter. The Triple Crown is awarded to those handlers who certify their K-9s in all the disciplines of patrol (obedience, agility, search skills and apprehension), detection and tracking.



The high-energy magic of "Speed & Thro" will fill the stage on Saturday at 5 p.m.

#### FESTIVAL continued from page 1

Closing out the main stage Friday, The Monster Band performs high energy funk/rock that covers hits from the 70s to today runs from 9 p.m. to midnight.

Saturday is, officially, Kids' Day. It opens at 9 a.m. on the Community Center lawn with fun competitions from diaper derby to water balloon toss to hula hoop twirling. At 9:30 a.m., kids can show off their animal companions at the pet show on the same lawn.

Greenbelter Melissa Sites leads a kid's sing-along at noon. "Mountain Fever Trio," a folk music group organized by Greenbelter Geff King, plays songs for the young and young at heart at 1 p.m. The tone changes to rock 'n roll when Rocknoceros, a WAMMIE-award winning children's music group, performs at 3 p.m.

At 4 p.m., the entertainment changes to visual fun when Greg May, one of Greenbelt's favorite clowns, amazes and amuses the crowd. And at 5 p.m. laugh and



John Luskey will perform straight-ahead good-time country music on Saturday night at 8:30 p.m.

thrill to the high-energy magic, insane comedy and astounding illusions of one of the East Coast's best magical teams, Speed and Thro

An earlier highlight of Kids' Day this year will be a special children's version of Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors," at the Greenbelt Arts Center, at 11:30 a.m., produced and adapted by Greenbelt thespian Bill Jones.

Saturday is also Information Day, as Greenbelt's community organizations let other citizens know about their projects, activities and missions at Roosevelt Center plaza from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For theater buffs, the Festival's other Shakespearean production, "Measure for Measure," will be performed at 2:30 and 5:30 p.m at the Greenbelt Arts Center. This story of romance, blackmail, deceit, immorality, justice, prison, repentance and marriage features a number of Greenbelters: crew members Betsy Barber, Anna Socrates and Penny Smith on stage and Silvia Miller and Bill Jones behind the scene.

On the physical side Saturday, you can join the annual horseshoe tournament at 9 a.m. behind the Aquatic Center or take part in the home run derby at Braden Field #2 at 12:15 p.m.

In the evening, watch your friends and neighbors "strut their stuff" at the Talent Show, starting at 6 p.m. with dancers, musicians, singers, comedians, poets—and maybe more.

To round off this full day, grab a seat and enjoy the country-western sounds of the John Luskey Band, a Southern Maryland trio widely known in the DC, MD, and VA music scene. They have performed with such national standouts as Kenny Chesney, Brooks-n-Dunn, and Rascal. They will be performing on the Main Stage from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Summer hasn't ended yet!

-- Frank DeBernardo



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	Fresh Qu		
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Kraft American Singles Yellow/White 12 oz.	Breakstone \$ 150 Sour Cream Assorted 16 oz.	Ham  Deli Gourmet \$199	Cream	Swanson \$ 100 Classic Dinners Assorted 6-11 oz.	
Kraft Phila. Cream Cheese 8 oz. brick	Shurfine \$200 Orange Juice From Concentrate 64 oz.	Cheese Fresh Dutch \$ 19	Celeste \$ 100	Stouffer's Red Box Entrees Select Varieties 6-21 oz.	
Health & Beauty	Seafood	Salad	Natural & Gourmet	Bakery	
Shampoo <b>88</b> ¢ or Conditioner 15 oz.	Fresh Catch \$699 Cod Fillets	Customer Appreciation Discount Day	Waters	Fresh 8 inch \$250 Store Baked Pies Cherry/Apple/Blueberry	

Caplets 10-12 pk.	Crabmeat 8 oz.	to ALL customers on ALL purchases (except stamps and gift cards)	Rice Sidedishes Assorted 6.5 oz.	Hamburger or Hot Dog Rolls 8 pk.
Kraft Mayonnaise or Miracle Whip Assorted 24-32 oz.	Penna. Dutch 3/\$400 Egg Noodles Assorted 12-16 oz.	Grocery Bargains  Kraft Barbecue Sauces 16-18 oz.	Shurfine Peanut Butter Assorted 18 oz.	Maxwell Hous 250 Original Ground Coffee Select Varieties 11-13 oz.
Gatorade Thirst Ouencher Drinks Assorted 32 oz.	C I I D '	General Mills Chex Cereal Assorted 12-14 oz.	Shurfine \$200 Instant Oatmeal Assorted 10-12 oz.	Nabisco Oreo Cookies Assorted 14-18 oz.

Wednesday, Aug. 27th

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# **Police Blotter**

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly\_report.pdf. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

#### **Robberies**

August 10, 2:40 a.m., Braden Field, a person was assaulted by four males who took his portable media player and money. The victim was not seriously injured. The suspects are described as four black males, one with hair in short dreadlocks, wearing a red shirt and jeans; and one wearing a white shirt, white pants and a

August 10, 6:45 p.m., 7900 block Mandan Road, a food delivery person was attempting to make a delivery when a youth forcibly took the food order from him and then fled the area on foot. The suspect is described as a Latino male 16 to 17 years old, 5'5", 120 pounds with short black hair, wearing a green and orange striped polo-type shirt.

August 13, 11:54 p.m., 6000 block Springhill Drive, a cab driver was robbed at gunpoint after he picked up a man at the Greenbelt Metro Station and drove him to the 6000 block of Springhill Drive. He was ordered out of the cab and was struck several times with a handgun, then was thrown to the ground by a second man. They then took money from the cab driver. The victim was transported to the hospital for treatment of serious injuries. One of the suspects is described as a black male in his twenties, 5'8", wearing tan pants, a black T-shirt and a black skull cap.

August 14, 9:35 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Road, a person was robbed at gunpoint inside an apartment hallway. The suspects are described as a black male, approximately 19 years old with a thin build and a light mustache, wearing a navy blue hooded jacket and dark pants; and a black male, wearing a white shirt.

August 9, 1:44 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a nonresident youth was arrested for assault. The youth was released to a parent pending action by the juvenile justice system.

August 9, 5:38 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Road, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with second-degree assault after allegedly striking another person with a baseball bat during a dispute. The victim refused medical treatment. The suspect was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner and for service of an open arrest warrant.

#### Theft

August 7, 7:58 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a resident woman was arrested and charged with theft and resisting arrest. She was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

#### **Trespass**

August 8, 12 a.m., 6400 block Capitol Drive, a nonresident man was arrested for trespass and released on citation pending trial.

#### Police Step Up Fight **Against Drunk Driving**

Local drivers may notice a heightened campaign against drunk driving in coming weeks. Police in Maryland and neighboring states will run sobriety checkpoints and patrols, as well as ads and outreach efforts to remind drivers of the dangers and consequences of impaired driving.

The efforts are part of a fivemonth Checkpoint Strikeforce campaign which will also include special efforts to stop drunk driving on rural roads. The start of the campaign coincides with Labor Day weekend, one of the deadliest weekends of the year.

#### **Public Drinking**

August 9, 3:24 p.m., 7700 block Hanover Parkway, a resident man was arrested for drinking in public and released on citation pending trial.

August 14, 9:25 a.m., 7500 block Greenway Center Drive, a nonresident man was arrested for drinking in public and released on citation pending trial.

#### Burglaries

August 9, 9:07 p.m., 6200 block Springhill Court, a burglary was reported. Nothing appeared to have been taken but the residence was vandalized.

August 10, 1:58 a.m., 5707 Cherrywood Lane, an attempted commercial burglary was reported.

#### **Vehicle Crimes**

A blue 2007 Chrysler van, Maryland tags 03279M3, was reported stolen from Walker and Golden Triangle Drives.

Two vehicles were recovered by Greenbelt police with no arrests made.

The 9100 block Edmonston Court and 9200 block Edmonston Road were the scenes of three attempted thefts from vehicles. Thefts from vehicles were reported at the following areas: 8100 block Mandan Terrace (GPS); 7200 block Morrison Drive (GPS); 200 block Lakeside Drive (tag); 9100 block Edmonston Court (three incidents - cell phone, vehicle documents, GPS); and Greenway Center (two incidents - change, ashtray, tag).

Vandalism to vehicles was reported at 5700 block Greenbelt Metro Drive (broken window) and 9200 block Edmonston Road (three incidents – broken windows and door locks).

On August 13 a vehicle was vandalized (broken window) in the 6600 block of Lake Park Drive. The owner saw two men walking away from his vehicle. They are described as a black male, 18 vears old with a thin build, black hair in dreadlocks and a dark complexion, wearing a white tank top and blue jeans; and a black male, 18 years old, 5'10" with a thin build, wearing a white T-shirt and blue jeans.

#### **Guilty Plea** In Arson Case

Jeremiah C. Jones pled guilty August 14 in federal court to nine counts of arson at the Springhill Lake Apartments (now Empirian Village). Jones had lived in the complex when the fires were set between March and August 2007. According to The Washington Post, the fires caused more than \$2 million in damages.

Jones also admitted setting other fires over the past three years. His sentencing is scheduled for December 8; he faces a sentence of a minimum of five years and a maximum of 20 years for each count, according to the U.S. Attorney.

#### 2008 Checkpoint **Strikeforce Begins**

Attorney General Douglas F. Gansler, along with the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association, announced the beginning of Maryland's 2008 Checkpoint Strikeforce campaign. Checkpoint Strikeforce is a multi-state campaign that includes Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. This weekend, law enforcement agencies in three-quarters of Maryland's jurisdictions will take part in a regional initiative to stop drunk driving on rural roads. Data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shows that 55 percent of the nation's 2006 traffic fatalities occurred on rural roads. In Maryland, the proportion of impaired drivers involved in crashes is more than 50 percent higher in the rural areas as compared to other areas of the State.

With the approach of Labor Day weekend, which is one of the deadliest drunk driving holiday weekends of the year, Checkpoint Strikeforce has begun a five-month, statewide campaign to reduce the incidence of drunken driving. This statewide campaign combines proactive public education and enforcement efforts, such as sobriety checkpoints and patrols, in order to raise public awareness of drunk driving.

"When Maryland law enforcement agencies make arrests, prosecutors will come down hard on those who choose to drink and drive. When they come to court, violators will learn that the drunk driving penalties can cost them much more than a ticket or fine,' said Attorney General Gansler.

In addition to sobriety checkpoints and patrols, the Maryland Checkpoint Strikeforce campaign is issuing advertisements in combination with other statewide outreach efforts in an effort to remind citizens of the many dangers and consequences of impaired driving.



This osprey or seahawk was captured on film on the northside of Greenbelt Lake by Malia Murray.

# Museum Awarded Grants For Remaking Tour Video

by Franklin Noll and Jill St. John

As mentioned in the July 24 issue of the News Review, the Greenbelt Museum will remake its 10-minute introductory video created in 1987 and shown at the start of every tour of the historic house at 10-B Crescent Road. It is seen by hundreds of tourists, residents and students every year. VideoArt Productions, a Washington, D.C., production company, will shoot and produce the new film at a cost of \$34,000. Video Art Productions has worked with the Museum in the past and has done work for the Winterthur Museum, the Renwick Gallery and the Diplomatic Reception Rooms in Washington, D.C.

The video is critical to the Museum's mission to preserve and communicate the history of our unique community as it encapsulates Greenbelt's past, describes the city's importance in the history of the United States and town planning and provides tourists and student groups with their first impression of the city. The new video will build upon the strengths of the existing one while exploring new topics such as the role African Americans played in constructing the city and how

racial segregation excluded them as residents. The film will also highlight the legacy of community in Greenbelt and how residents are still able to enjoy many of the amenities established by the creators of the city.

To raise the money needed to remake the video, museum staff applied for and received numerous grants. The Maryland Historical Trust awarded \$15,500, the Maryland Humanities Council granted \$7,000, and the Greenbelt Community Foundation gave \$4,000. The City of Greenbelt also pledged \$3,000 for the project. Yet, despite these funds, the museum still needs \$4,500 to meet the cost of the film. Additional grants are being applied for and donations are always accepted.

To make a tax deductible donation to help fund the video make checks payable to the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum (FOGM), PO Box 1025, Greenbelt, MD,

Dr. Franklin Noll is the treasurer of Friends of the Greenbelt Museum. Jill St. John is the former curator and director of historical programs at the Greenbelt Museum.

# Dogs Gone Dancin' II Was Another Big Hit

by Barbara Likowski

Dogs Gone Dancin' II, presented by Greenbelt Dog Training (GDT) in the spring, lived up to their reputation set by GDT's program of over a year ago. Set at an obvious closeness between the Greenbelt Fire House again, the evening program, "Pawprints of the Heart," was dedicated to Adele Lee, the dogs' biggest fan and supporter of their freestyle dancing. The audience seemed to love it.

A mixture of dogs who had been in the first program and dogs who participated for the first time worked fine and resulted in audience enthusiasm for the dogs' many antics.

Responsible for the behavior of the dogs was Allie Lee, instructor and owner of GDT. The freestyle dance instructor, Darlene Chroniger, used her knowledge learned as a dance instructor of humans to teach the animals to

The ScentSations, the freestyle group, started the program by marching around the circle to music, some on skateboards. Then individual dogs showed what they could do. Each dog was accom-

panied by its owner who kept the close relationship going by giving special treats to their dogs as they performed. The result was The audience chuckled as some of the dogs noticed the audience and some looked for a way to get to them. Others went back to make sure they hadn't missed any dropped treats.

A few dogs performed on skateboards and others jumped through a hoop or ran through their owners' arms or legs on cue. Even though their leashes were taken off for the performance, the dogs generally kept to the scheduled program. The audience seemed to "lap it up."

Where did these dancing dogs come from? They were adopted from various places until they arrived at their "forever" home and families and their owners brought them to dog training. They have participated in visiting Childrens' Hospital and other institutions, have marched in parades and a drill team and also worked to earn their awards for obedience and agility.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500

for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.

The August 1 program supporting the Creative Kids Camp scholarships featured camp staff. Travis Jolly (left) and Ian Brown-Gorrell (right) sing "Hakuna Matata" from the Lion King in the show finale.

# Scholarship Show Draws Crowd





Left to right, Stephen Cox and Danny Parisi perform "Alison" by Elvis Costello.

Center: Ian Brown-Gorrell gives Kelly McCarty a twirl in the finale of the show (song is "Hakuna Matata" from the Lion King).

Above: L-R Emma **Bloksberg-Fireovid** and Dina Goldberg-Strassler perform a scene "Phyllis and Zenobia" by Christopher Durang.

Two members of the audience pose Will Voorhies and Carlista Martin. Sara Nelkin is in the background.

# Some People Don't Smile in Pictures

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28 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-0717

### BAKER continued from page 6

when the band teacher would say to her "Have you heard this kid sing?" The teachers recommended other music classes and other areas of music to their students and they were content to help the children develop "rather than to think solely about their own ensembles,' says Dr. Baker.

"Roosevelt music teachers support the development of lifelong learners and participants in music," she says, adding that "the city of Greenbelt has been a wonderful leader in supporting and valuing the arts."

"Sadly," laments Dr. Baker, "the No Child Left Behind Act has thrown out some things that made education fun and creative. Music and physical education are always on the chopping block for budget cuts and iPods and MP3s provide no musical socialization." Dr. Baker feels strongly that a lot of American culture gets lost when music is not taught in schools.

#### **Stand-out Students**

Every now and then Dr. Baker will hear from a former student who says, "I remember when the choir . . . " and although there are many of these, a couple of students stand out. One wanted to go to college and, with Dr. Baker's help, went on to receive a couple of master's degrees and to have a career in the Marine Corps.

Another former student became a backup singer on the hit TV show "Ally McBeal" and returned to ERHS to speak with Dr. Baker's choirs, encouraging them to always give 110%, no doubt advice she learned from Dr. Baker.

Yet another student is Verve recording artist Kenny Lattimore. A 1986 graduate of ERHS, Lattimore has achieved a spot in R&B history with his soulful ballads and can credit Dr. Baker for his training in classical and chamber music. Lattimore recently returned from California to attend Dr. Baker's retirement party, a true testament to his former teacher's impact.

'Kenny was one of the first of my five students who won the Maryland Distinguished

Scholar in the Arts award," says Dr. Baker humbly. "Although there are precious few who have gone on to make singing a career, lots continue to sing."

#### Credos

"Teachers plant seeds of goodness and decency and love of being a good human being,' states Dr. Baker, "but there is a risk: you share your heart and soul and the students may not accept what you are sharing." By sharing herself, Dr. Baker conveys her own brand of optimism, which is "do your best and something good will happen."

She once had a student who cried every time she sang her twice-a-quarter singing exam, Dr. Baker's way of making sure the students are progressing and not abusing their voices and helping them develop "mental toughness." That student, who struggled every time she needed to perform in front of her peers, is now starring in off-Broadway plays.

"People are not joining things," Dr. Baker says. "Sports teams and leagues, civic organizations, clubs, today's society makes joining things passė. In today's world, it's hard to get people to make the commitment to belong to something and if one doesn't join things in school, the likelihood of doing so later, as an adult, is small."

Dr. Baker herself established the gospel choir at her church because members wanted to lift their voices and the group needed a director. The only audition for the gospel choir at her church is "Can you cook, because it's about fellowship, not about having a great voice or even being able to sing well. The church choir has become a better choir and we really share great food, too!"

Dr. Baker has directed the choir at Colesville United Methodist Church in Silver Spring for 27 years. "No one talks about missed notes," she says, "because it's about the whole being greater than the sum of its parts and everyone lifting his or her voice to the Lord."

#### The Future

next choir director is: "Be yourself, don't try to be me. If you can love what you do, the children will love it, too." In the meantime, Dr. Baker plans to continue doing what she's been doing all along but maybe invest a little more time in doing so: being a guest conductor, doing some house-cleaning, having some fun lunches with her church friends and getting more sleep.

It is undeniable that Dr. Baker has set a standard of excellence for the students in the ERHS choir and that should pave the way for a successful career for whoever follows her. She hopes that Greenbelt will continue to support ERHS and especially the arts.

Dr. Baker also hopes that the school board "thinks hard before cutting arts for children." If the arts are cut, parents will have the responsibility of keeping music alive in their homes. The arts add enrichment to the community and there can be no denying that Dr. Baker's 30 years of teaching musical arts at ERHS has en-Dr. Baker's advice to the riched hundreds of lives.

#### Air Force Certifies **College Park Museum**

The College Park Aviation Museum has received full civilian museum certification by the National Museum of the United States Air Force. This certification is recognition of the high quality of exhibit maintenance and care that College Park Aviation Museum undertakes. With this certification the museum is now qualified to borrow historical property from the Air Force and its museums. This certification will bring new temporary exhibits of art and artifacts to the museum.

Always encouraging public attendance and volunteer associates, the College Park Aviation Museum is located at 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive in College Park. It is a facility of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation. For information call 301-864-6029, TTY 301-864-4765 or go to www.collegeparkaviationmuseum.com.

#### **Audio Museum Tours Available Online**

The College Park Aviation Museum now is offering audio tours of the museum in English, Spanish and French on its website, www.collegeparkaviationmuseum.com.

This new opportunity is a reminder that College Park Airport has been on the cutting edge of the information age once before. In August of 1918 – 90 years ago - College Park Airport was the departure point for the first postal air mail service. That delivery signaled a new and faster way for news and correspondence to

The museum's collections include memorabilia related to that historic 1918 flight, such as a field pass issued to Daisy Marie Thomas, a Post Office employee. Her attention was caught by the handsome young pilot, Max Miller, who flew the mail to Philadelphia that day. Six months later, they were married – but he was killed in a plane crash en route to Cleveland in another year and a half.

# Greenbelt Listings

Mary Kingsley, Realtor Branch Manager, GRI



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Speak with a lender: For your convenience, a lender will be available at 'Mary's Place' on Tuesday, noon til 2:30 Thursday, 1:00 til 3:00 Drop in or make appt.

Contact Mary at 240 604 6605!



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Branch Office, Realty 1, Inc



44T RIDGE ROAD

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**New Listing!** \$160,000 List



1-D SOUTHWAY

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Close to center! \$228,250 List



13K RIDGE ROAD

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Close to library! \$220,000 List



9G LAUREL HILL RD.

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Tree-top views \$115,000 List



**6L PLATEAU PLACE** 

Incredible outdoor entertaining area on deck overlooking woodlands. Upgrades!!! Two bedroom frame townhome.

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18G RIDGE ROAD

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MARY'S PLACE

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35A RIDGE ROAD

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7892 LAKECREST DR

Incredibly beautiful one bedroom Charlestowne Village condo. Separate laundry room in condo.

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ANNOUNCING ITS 2008-2009 season opening! Prince George Choral Society. Rehearsals and auditions for all voices start on August 25. Be there!! 301-336-8539 for information.

MARCH with Peace and Justice on Labor Day. Sign up at the Information Day Peace and Justice table.

#### REAL ESTATE – SALE

FOR SALE – 2 bedroom brick GHI unit. Near Roosevelt Center. Hardwood floors, updated kitchen, updated bath, new fridge and AC. Priced \$182,000 for quick sale. Call Carolyn, Jobin Realty, 703-216-0052.

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WANTED - Paid/volunteer to converse with my son twice a week. 38, Christian, limited employment. Strengths: language, math, data entry, tutoring. Hobbies: political debate, reading, chess, board games, hiking, playing CDs, writing poetry, writers' group. Regularly communicating with others. Bill, Old Greenbelt, 301-405-6006 (W), bnorwood@umd.edu

#### YARD/MOVING SALES

YARD SALE - Sat. Aug. 23, 7962 Lakecrest Dr. Rear Charlestowne condos. 7 a.m.- noon?? Rain date Sunday 8/24.

YARD SALE - Sat., 8/23 - 1-H Laurel Hill Rd., 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Housewares, credenza, storage bins and toys, corrugated vinyl roofing, television, etc.

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# GIVE BLOOD, GIVE LIFE Saturday, August 16, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.,

The Lord's Church of Transformation, 8005 Martin Luther King Jr. Highway, Glenarden Tuesday, August 19, 1 to 7 p.m., Moose College Park Lodge #453, 3700 Metzerott Road, College Park Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE

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4B RIDGE ROAD Cappliances. This home is completely **Turn-Key!** \$224,334.00



11C HILLSIDE ROAD 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath!! **Spacious interior frame** with beautiful hardwood flooring, updated bath, and large window facing the private fenced-in yard. \$185,000.00



39B RIDGE ROAD 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath Block!! This home boasts beautiful private gardens, hardwood floors throughout, loads of natural light, and an excellent location! \$217,500.00



33L RIDGE ROAD 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath Block!! Bright, sunny, and just steps from the Center! This home is tucked away from the road and sits next to open community land! \$210,000.00



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#### Co. Offers Grants For Tree Plantings

Homeowner associations might want to make use of the Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources (DER) ReLeaf Grant Program, which has been developed to assist communities with planting more trees and better forests. The purpose of this program is to enhance the natural environment of Prince George's County, encourage stewardship of living resources and stimulate excitement and enthusiasm for the planting and nurturing of trees. The county is seeking community initiated reforestation projects that promote forest resources as vital components of the urban landscape.

The ReLeaf Grant Program provides funding to communities, civic/homeowners organizations and municipalities for tree planting and landscaping projects. Grant funding to purchase and plant trees is available on a firstcome, first-served basis. Communities can receive up to \$2,500 in grant funds and municipalities up to \$5,000. Projects that may qualify for funding include the revitalization of urban parks and spaces, memorial plantings, streetscapes, gateways and reforestation of open spaces to connect fragmented woodlands.

Financial assistance in the form of a 50 percent matching grant is available and will be disbursed to the applicant after project completion in accordance with an approved application. In instances where volunteers are utilized to plant the trees, the cost of the soil preparation and planting can be used for the applicant's 50 percent match.

For questions about what can be done to improve a community or guidance in designing a project call Ross Farahi-Far, program coordinator at 301-883-5819. For more information about this and other DER programs visit the website at www.co.pg.md.us/ Government/AgencyIndex/DER.

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Condolences to the family and friends of Dennese Hoppel of Green Ridge House.

Deepest sympathy to Pat Ball of Lakewood and her family on the death of her son Jeffrey.

We are sorry to learn about the death of Demitri Nader of Windsor Green.

#### **Congratulations:**

-- to Ole and Ingrid Hass of Northway on the birth of their daughter, Cecilia Anna, on August 14, 2008. The new baby weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces, and joins big brother Felix, who turned three on August 9.

-- to former Greenbelter Larry Trimble and his wife Maura on the birth of their first child, Timothy Xavier, born July 17, 2008, at 9:47 a.m. Timothy weighed 10 pounds. Proud family members, many of whom lived in and grew up in Greenbelt, are grandparents Tim and Gail Trimble of Laurel, Imelda Trimble of Edgewater and Diana Plumer of Lanham; aunts Jessica and Imelda Trimble, Jennifer Yeatts, Kayla Gorman and soon-to-be aunt Nicole Trimble; and uncles TJ and Adrian Trimble, Danny Yeatts and Dave Gorman.

Send us your reports of new babies, awards, honors, etc. to share with our readers. We'd especially like to hear more from our neighbors in Greenbelt East and Empirian Village (formerly Springhill Lake). To send information for "Our Neighbors" email us at newsreview@greenbelt.com or leave a message at 301-474-

# There's No Place

Located inside Pleasant Touch Spa in Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt Om offers a full schedule of Yoga classes for all abilities, plus Pilates and T'ai Chi. Come and enjoy classes every day. We also offer a range of wellness-related workshops. Drop-in students are always welcome. Visit soon!



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#### **Coast Guard Offers Seamanship Classes**

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 72 is offering a course for both new and experienced boaters. Boating Skills and Seamanship will meet twice a week for eight weeks at 7 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday evenings starting Wednesday, September 3 at High Point High School, 3601 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville.

Among the subjects covered are boating terminology, required equipment, legal responsibilities, trailering, fueling, boat handling, weather, charts, buoys, knots and lines and radio communications. The instructors are trained, volunteer members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Registration will be held the first night of class. The only cost is for books and charts.

For further information contact Steve by email at tsktsk10@hotmail.com or after 9 a.m. call Steve at 410-531-3313 or Jean at 301-261-7735.

#### **Continental Movers**

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**OPEN HOUSE** 107 Tamarisk Court, Greenbelt Sunday, August 24th 1-3pm A beautiful home in a beautiful

setting, this 4 bedroom single family home in Boxwood is a true gem. Situated in a quiet culde-sac, the home features hard wood floors in the living and dining room, an eat-in kitchen with upgraded appliances, a lower level family room with fireplace and an office. Sliding glass doors open onto a stunning backyard with mature plantings surrounding a screened-in gazebo.

View this property online at: www.TAMARISKHOME.com and stop by the open house. We're looking forward to seeing

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#### **Upcoming Patuxent Nature Programs**

At the National Wildlife Visitor Center, located on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore/Washington Parkway and Route 197, on Sunday, August 24 from 2 to 3:30 p.m., those 8 and up can heighten their senses through journaling. A refuge naturalist will be on hand to teach key points for journaling nature and wildlife observations.

Patuxent Research Refuge public programs are free, although donations to the Friends of Patuxent are appreciated. Advance registration is required by calling 301-497-5887; special needs can be accommodated with advance notice. For more information visit the website at www.patuxent.fws.gov.

#### **JC LANDSCAPING**

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#### **Ride Wristbands On Sale Now** Wristband

vouchers for Labor Day Festival carnival rides are available at Co-op for \$10.00.



Vouchers can be purchased until Friday, August 29 at noon and used on Saturday, August 30 and Sunday, August 31 until 4 p.m. Regular price for ride wristbands will be \$20.00 on Saturday and Sunday at the carnival grounds.

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9B Laurel Hill Rd. 

#### 7742 Frederick Rd.

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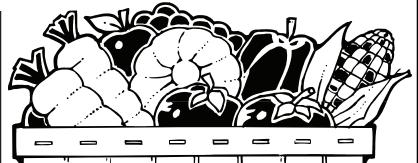


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#### **Boxwood Village**

Split Foyer with 5 br & 2 1/2 ba. Finished basement has 2nd kitchen & laundry room. Landscaped backyard with patio and shed. \$420,000

**Corner Lot** 

# Ot of o

#### OPEN Saturday 12-2pm - 4-C Laurel Hill Road

2 Br townhome with flat-top stove, built-in microwave and modern cabinets. Updated bathroom, large shed in backyard and more. \$159,900

#### **One Bedroom GHI Home**

Top-floor living with private stairwell and entry door. Windows overlook trees and yards. Refinished floors & hardwood bookcases. \$115,000

#### Corner Lot - Backs To Woodlands - Addition, Too!

This 2 bedroom end unit has an ADDITION with half-bath on the main level. Remodeled opened kitchen and bath. Separate laundry. \$189,900

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Spacious and airy one bedroom home all on one level with assigned parking close by. Beautifully maintained & tastefully decorated. \$196,485

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#### **Large Block Townhome With Vinyl Siding**

Three bedroom townhome with modern kitchen and bathroom. Pergo flooring in living room. Quality fixtures throughout home. \$228,500

Three story townhome in Westlake Village. Neighborhood access to swimming pools, playgrounds and more. Value Priced at \$289,900

**Snowden Oaks** 

This 4br, 2 1/2 bath rambler is located on 2 level acres in Anne Arundel County. Master Bedroom addition in '07. Pool included. \$625,000

#### Clinton

4 br, 2 ba. Split foyer home located in Clinton Woods. Private Setting. Owners have found their home of choice and reduced price - \$318,900



Your Greenbelt Specialists





Residents of Woodland Hills enjoyed their community picnic, getting to know new neighbors and catching up with others.

### -- photo by Cynthia Cummings

# Woodland Hills Residents Meet for Annual Picnic

by Mary Moien

On Sunday, July 13 about 35 neighbors met deep in the woods behind Northway and Woodland Way for the annual picnic and meeting of Woodway Development, Inc. The group formed more than 50 years ago to buy a tract of land and build houses.

With the exception of some Greenbelt Homes, Inc. houses on the two streets, the remainder of the homes are of part of this Woodland Hills group. Several original home owners were present, including Leonie Penney and Jim Bates. A number of new families with small children were

President Jon Gardner, led the meeting. The topics were a microcosm of city issues such as concern about widening Kenilworth Avenue, about air quality and how noise from major roads affects residents. There was a petition that will be sent to the celebration before year's end.

city asking for a full traffic light at the crosswalk on Crescent Road near Northway; support will be sought from the fire and police departments and St. Hugh's

There were several discussions of accidents and near-misses.

Walkers complained about abundant poison ivy along city paths; board member Jordan Choper was asked to follow up on this issue. During a discussion on mosquitos, a participant said the county has a person who will visit and assess a resident's home. It was stated that mosquitos stay close to where they were born and the most effective remedy is to eliminate standing water.

Although the neighborhood is now in its 51st year, volunteers agreed that it is not too late to have a 50th anniversary party. Plans are underway to have the

# Council Acts on Much City **Business at August Meeting**

by James Giese

The Greenbelt City Council took the following actions at its August 11 regular meeting:

Received the personal thanks of Mark V. Welch, president of the West Lanham Hills Volunteer Fire Department, for a donation from the city to be used as payment on a debt for fire equipment and to enable the department to keep their mini-pumper. The department is first to run to Greenbelt East. The department is holding a fund-raiser crab feast on September 6 to which all are

Appointed Angella Foster of GHI and Darcy Howe of Green briar to the Arts Advisory Board and David Whitman of Lakeside to the Advisory Committee on Education.

#### **Senior Report**

Accepted a report from the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee on suggestions and comments by participants on traffic safety at a pilot pedestrian safety workshop April 7 by the University of North Carolina's Highway Safety Research Center and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. City staff is to review and follow-up.

Commended the Public Works Department for quick cleanup of fallen trees and branches on city streets following the Thursday, August 4 storm.

Unanimously enacted an ordinance to authorize some negotiated purchases without bids with some contractors during the fiscal year, with the notable addition of CPJ Associated, hired to do an emergency plan/dam breach study for Greenbelt Lake required by the state.

#### **Charter Amendment**

Introduced by Councilmember Rodney Roberts, a Charter Amendment Resolution to amend the city charter to permit the Employee Relations Board to carry out state-mandated duties including making binding decisions on grievance procedures resulting from collective bargaining agreements. (If enacted at the next regular meeting, the amendment will be advertised four times in the News Review prior to be coming effective. During that time, the amendment could be petitioned to referendum by citizens. This charter amendment had been adopted once before by council, but staff had failed to duly advertise it and it was subsequently deemed not to have been enacted.)

Councilmember Leta Mach introduced a resolution to increase inspection fees for multi-family rental units from \$85 to \$100 and for single-family rental units from \$135 to \$150 and by \$25 for commercial inspections.

Unanimously approved a three-year cooperative agreement with Prince George's County for the use of Community Development Block Grant funds. Although funds allocated to the city are expected to dwindle, city staff believes the city would do better through county action than by acting independently.

# Mystery at the Lake Deepens

by Don Comis

"Do the sea monsters come out at night and swim in the pool?" my new friend, Juan Jose Johnson, age 12, asked me. I told him that sounded about right. Juan and I were on a quick search to see what sea monsters we could find on July 13, nine days after three new creatures had emerged from Greenbelt Lake.

The newest sea monsters are Rousseau, the blue angler fish, named after City Public Works employee Mike Rousseau; Trotsky, an orange hatchet fish; and pink Sebastian, the elephantlike chimera.

Trotsky is by a window on the second floor of the Muncipal Building and can be seen as a colorful figure from the outside, says Nicole DeWald, Recreation Department arts supervisor. Rousseau, the fierce looking angler fish, is in the vending machine area of the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center. Hold onto your snacks!

In our search of the Youth Center and the Community Center, we only found Sebastian -- in the hospital nursery room, otherwise known as the Community Center art studio room 116. DeWald says in this room Sebastian is having some conservation work done, since the sea monsters are a unique part of Greenbelt's fauna and flora, worthy of preservation.

To say this year's creatures are colorful would seem an understatement to those who braved the rains of July 4th to see the fireworks when the storms subsided. As the sky darkened, the creatures glowed different colors, showing off solar powered lights. Perhaps because of this energysaving message they knew Greenbelters would enjoy, the creatures danced in the lake during the fireworks for the first time.

Each 4th of July for the past four years, three to five of these creatures have surfaced but they always came to the shore before the fireworks started. Kayaker Marc Siegel escorts them to land each year when they are ready.

We did see last year's monster trio -- Gene the skate (stingray), an unnamed whale and the tallest monster to date, the 9 1/2 foot tall seahorse named Kai -- peacefully watching over the beautiful



Rousseau, the blue angler fish photographed by Don Comis.

Greenbelt pool. We saw another creature at the Youth Center and, in the hallways of the Community Center, five more from previous years -- a giant purple otter, a giant crow, a spotted dancing beaver and two giant frogs. That left six we couldn't find on our quick search, since 16 of the creatures have emerged from the lake over the years.

The other creatures from July 4ths past are three more giant frogs and a turtle. These creatures are at the Municipal Building and the Greenbelt Library.

One of the frogs became so attached to Siegel that he now resides in his yard.

When I last saw these creatures they were in the studio, being worked on by studio manager John Norden, art instructor Dan Schubmehl and DeWald.

DeWald says the sea monsters got help from campers in the first session of the Community Center's annual Creative Kids Camp workshop led by teacher Randal Mars and volunteers Nicole and Michelle Shuman and Anne Rowe.

The campers, ages 6 to 12, 'had to learn to carve and smooth and shape sea monster body parts," DeWald says. "You could say they learned surgical as well as art skills, along with the chance to work together cooperatively.'

"We had two or three classes a day five days a week working on the creatures for two weeks during the first session of summer camp," DeWald says.

Work started even before that. Recreation Department staff-

ers Matt McLaughlin and Jesse Folks cut out basic pieces using Dewald's patterns to give the campers guidelines or anatomical charts for their "surgery."

By the last two weeks before the holiday, the adults took over and there were day and night sessions seven days a week, like the night this reporter walked in on DeWald, Norden and Schubmehl. They were covered with a strange white dust the monsters

With July 4, 2008, over with, DeWald, Norden and Schubmehl and so many others can relax until the work starts all over again next summer, helping next year's expected new arrivals from the depths of Greenbelt

DeWald figures there is an endless supply of strange but beautiful and clever creatures down there with much to teach

As to why they only surface on July 4, DeWald speculates that "maybe they are curious and come up to see what creatures create a hum loud enough for the monsters to hear from deep below. When they emerge they receive such positive responses from us strange land creatures with two legs that they are happy to become part of our celebration and even live among us. The solar light show they put on this year makes me think that the sea monsters that moved to land in Greenbelt must be returning to the lake and talking with others about us. Maybe they've also learned we like the surprise every 4th of July."



August 22 – September 6

(8/22, 8/23, 9/5 & 9/6 at 8.00pm; 8/17 & 8/24 at 2:00pm) NOTE: No performances of this play during the Labor Day weekend (8/29-8/31) Tickets are \$15.00 general admission and \$12.00 for seniors and students cash or check only night of show

FOR RESERVATIONS: call 301-441-8770

Greenbelt Arts Center

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